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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3628
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DRAFT

11 FEB 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT:

Project WUDEPOT

REFERENCE:

DD/P Memo, 29 December 1964, to Chairman,

Joint Chiefs of Staff, Unconventional

Warfare (UW) Planning

- 1. This memorandum requests your approval of the course of action outlined in paragraph six.
- 2. Project WUDEPOT was initiated in 1956 specifically to prepare for UW support of the military in anticipation of open hostilities against the USSR, and with but few minor variations this has been its principal purpose since that time. As indicated in your memorandum referenced above, and in the several Staff studies that preceded it, it is now the consensus that this project no longer realistically serves this purpose. As a consequence the JCS have undertaken a re-examination of UW requirements, and the DO Division has suspended further recruitment and retraining of agent assets to meet the JCS requirements.
- 3. The question now arises as to what use can be made of the WUDEPOT mechanism in current operations including the agent reservists presently retrained by the project,

the Headquarters Staff which administers the project, and the physical assets that the project has acquired.

- 4. As regards the agent reservists (presently about 100), certain limiting factors inhibit their general usefulness in current operations and especially in sensitive contingency operations.
 - a. All of these agents have been recruited to serve in a Hot War situation in areas related to their ethnic origins. It has already been determined that some are unwilling or unqualified to serve in any other capacity.
 - b. All have been trained primarily for employment in advance of Army Special Forces behind enemy lines in wartime. Their utility in a covert or clandestine role during the Cold War, therefore, will require some reorientation and retraining.
 - c. With but few exceptions, they are U. S. citizens, which means that where the U. S. hand must be concealed they must be used only with the utmost circumspection, and in situations where there is little risk of capture.
- 5. The Headquarters Staff which administers the project, including the spotting and recruiting officers, the training officers, and the administrative personnel (total 38), as an

entity constitutes a valuable covert asset of the Clandestine Services. Administratively, it would be wasteful to disband this asset if it can be kept gainfully employed. As (if) the WUDEPOT UW support activity is curtailed, however, it is inevitable that this Staff must be reduced in strength, and individuals reassigned, unless its efforts can be redirected to serve some other purpose. Likewise, the physical assets of the project, particularly Meade, Pickett, and local real estate, will become surplus unless they can be put to other use.

- 6. SOD and DO Division jointly have been reviewing these problems and tentatively have undertaken the following actions which are not encompassed by the present project outline:
 - a. Pending final determination of future JCS wartime UW requirements, which may not be made for several months, DO/DOB will not conduct any further recruitment or re-training of agent reservists for such use.
 - b. In the meantime, DO/DOB in coordination with SOD currently is screening all agent reservists now on the rolls to identify those who are qualified, willing, and able (in terms of job release, family, etc.) to serve in some capacity in current contingency operations.

The recent request by AF Division for 20 WUDEPOT agent assets to serve ______ will facilitate this process. Agent reservists who are unqualified, unwilling, or unable to serve in some useful capacity in current contingency operations will be designated tentatively for release.

- c. When (if) the Hot War UW requirement for agent reservists is finally cancelled, those reservists tentatively designated for release will be released, and a concerted effort then will be made to utilize the others, within their limitations as indicated in paragraph 4 above, to augment existing requirements.
- d. Beginning now, SOD and DO Division jointly will undertake to review and recommend to the DD/P, by about 1 April 1965, the best utilization of the WUDEPOT Staff and physical assets, bearing in mind their potential usefulness to other existing CS projects.
- 7. It is desired that you approve this course of action.

Chief, DO Division

Major General, USA Chief, Special Operations Division

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cc:

SR Division EE Division NE Division

The course of action outlined in paragraph 6 is approved:

Deputy Director for Plans